



PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 23, 1858.

A letter in the New York Times, dated Hong Kong, Feb. 5, states that Com. Armstrong had left for the United States, and that Com. Tatnell had assumed command of the United States squadron. The Mississippi had been ordered to Whampoa. The Minnesota, San Jacinto and Portsmouth were at Hong Kong, but the latter would proceed to Manila in a short time. Mr. Reed had chartered the American steamer Antelope to take him to Shanghai, and was to pay her \$5,000 per month for six months.

Dates from Caracas to the 31st ult., have been received at New York. The overthrow of Monagas is complete, and his banishment or execution is clamored for. Placards have been posted giving a list of robberies perpetrated under Monagas' rule, amounting to over \$17,000,000. It was reported that the American Minister had advised Monagas to declare Caracas in a state of siege, and himself dictator. The whole diplomatic corps would probably receive courage from the provisional government.

The New York Commercial in an article on "Political parties hereafter," says:—"All previous history of political parties in this republic has shown, however, that except during transition processes, there can really be but two great political organizations—the party of the Administration and the party of the opposition. Whatever may be the temporary excitement, and though political antagonism may be brought on by such agitations, so soon as the country has rest therefrom and resumes its normal condition, the people settle down into supporters of the policy of the existing government and the opponents of that policy. The indications now are very palpable that so soon as the "Kansas question" is removed from the arena of national politics, parties will resume their settled attitudes and there will be only two parties known to the country." The Commercial also thinks that in preparing for the future of political action, the Democracy may be said to have the advantage over their opponents. That party has suffered less disintegration during the late commotion in the political atmosphere than any other.

From the private papers of Santa Anna and his emissaries, it appears that as far back as September last, he was actively plotting and directing the revolutionary movements of his confederates in view of his restoration to the old dictatorship. The sequel shows, however, that he counted without his host.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Richmond, numbers between 600 and 700 members, active, associate and honorary.—The active consist of men under 40, and who are members of the church—the associate, of persons not professing religion, and of such persons professing as are over 40 years, and the honorary are principally clergymen. The library now contains 2,200 volumes.—The Reading Room is free for strangers, and the subscription for members is \$2 a year, with the privilege of using the Reading Room and taking out books.

Ion, the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says:—"The conference committee on the Kansas bill, it is supposed, report a project substantially the same as that mentioned as having been offered by Mr. English. It will settle the question—It gives Kansas the right to reject the whole constitution, or to wait for an enabling act, which may be passed after she shall have a sufficient population to entitle her to one representative."

In the House of Representatives on Wednesday, the Military Academy appropriation bill was debated, and after the rejection of several amendments, was finally passed as reported. The bill making appropriations for the Legislative, Executive and Judicial expenses of Government for the ensuing fiscal year, was also considered in committee, and several amendments were proposed.

The agricultural interest which has been very prosperous for several years past, must now it is said, be prepared for a low scale of prices until the merchants and manufacturers have had time to recuperate their energies, which have been exhausted on the part of the manufacturers by too high prices for raw material, and on that of the merchants by prices of all staples of export being too high for transportation to distant markets.

Four burglars broke into the grocery store of Messrs. Daters & Co., No. 161 Front street, in New York, on Wednesday. They blew open the safe with gunpowder, and stole about \$400 and some bonds and mortgages. Only one was arrested, who proved to be John Miller, a noted burglar. He was locked up in the Tombs for trial, and the Police are on a lookout for the accomplices.

Mr. Pickett's exequator having been revoked by the Mexican Consul at Vera Cruz by the Supreme Government of Mexico, the Governor of the State of Vera Cruz writes to Mr. P. that he recognizes Cruz as the Governor of the State, and that he is willing to recognize him as the Governor of the State, and continues Mr. P.'s redoubtful Council.

In the House of Representatives, on Wednesday, Mr. Letcher, of Va., on leave, introduced certain joint resolutions of the General Assembly of Virginia, for the final settlement of half-pay to certain Revolutionary officers; which were referred to the Committee on Revolutionary Claims.

Miss Louisa Lander of Salem, Mass., now in Rome, and the only female pupil of her town, Mr. Hawthorne, who is also in Rome, and a bas relief of the Rev. Mr. Mountford. Her principal work thus far is a statue of "Evangeline."

Mr. Richard Wallace has been tendered the nomination for Mayor of Washington, by a number of citizens, irrespective of party. Mr. Wallace has accepted the nomination.

We have received from Mr. George E. French, "The Quaker Soldier," or the British in Philadelphia, a historical novel, complete in one handsome volume. It is noticed as a work of ability, and the author is said to display a rare knowledge of early revolutionary history. The chief character of the story is a member of the Society of Friends, whose adventures are full of interest.

We have also received from Mr. French the May number of Harper's Magazine, inferior in no respect to its predecessors.—Among the interesting contents are a continuation of Thackeray's Virginia; A Winter in the South, continued; Tiger hunting on foot in India; the story of Florence Fay; Experience of a gambler; &c., &c.

From Mr. George Siggers, No. 75, Prince street, we have, also, received a copy of Harper's Magazine for May.

The Senate's committee of conference on the Kansas bill have still Mr. English's substitute under consideration. It was supposed they would arrive at some conclusion, yesterday.

Charles Campbell, esq., author of the history of Virginia, is warmly recommended for the Professorship of history in William and Mary College, made vacant by the death of the gifted Washington.

The dispute as to whether Mrs. Fremont's name is Jessie or Ann, has been decided by the publication of her father, Col. Benton's will. Her name is Jessie Ann; so that both parties to this important controversy were right, and both were wrong.

Major General A. H. Farham, died at his residence in Honesdale, Pa., on Tuesday afternoon.

The small seines on the Patuxent River, have been unsuccessful thus far, and the take of fish less than usual.

The celebrated bark Adriatic, has cleared at Savannah, with a cargo of lumber for Cork.

Barney Williams and wife are having a great run in Europe.

Kansas.
The Washington correspondent of the Richmond South says:—"There is scarcely any ground to hope for the passage of the Kansas bill, in any shape, during this session, and of the consequent admission of Kansas as a State of the Union. There is nothing for the Southern States to regret in this result. The Democratic Southern members, and all from the South except a few, voted for the bill in its least objectionable form.—In this they acted according to principle—and did their full duty—perhaps they yielded more than duty and right required. But there is no present claim for doing more. Kansas will and must be an anti-slavery State within six months after being admitted even under the Lecompton (or a pro-slavery) Constitution. Thus the South has nothing to gain and much to lose from the admission of Kansas. This opinion should not operate to bar her admission, if there was a rightful and constitutional claim. But neither on the necessary and important ground of having the requisite population, nor any other just ground, has Kansas rightful claim now to be admitted as a State."

French Embassy.
The "getting up" of the new French embassy to London, it is said, will exceed anything for brilliancy that has ever preceded it in the history of diplomatic magnificence.—The Duke's official carriage will surpass in beauty and cost that made for Marshal Solt and the coronation of Queen Victoria. The new minister's income is now as follows: Annual salary as ambassador 300,000 francs; for installation, or what is called under our old diplomatic law "outfit," 10,000 francs, to support the title of the Duke of Malakoff, 40,000 francs; as Marshal of France, 40,000 francs; as Senator, 30,000 francs; for various decorations he wears. The total is about 580,000 francs a year, or \$115,000. As he is a bachelor, the Baroness Malakoff, wife of the first secretary of the legation, a lady eminently qualified, will do the honors of the embassy. The marshal has taken the Sefton House, Belgrave Square, for his new residence.

Hon. Edward Everett.
It will be seen by the following card that the Hon. Edward Everett has again been compelled to suspend his Southern tour. We extract from the Charleston Mercury of the 19th instant:

A CARD.—The subscriber, having this day received letters from his family which again make it necessary for him to return home, begs leave in this way to express to the public bodies and committees which have honored him with invitations to repeat his address "on the character of Washington" his deep regret that he is obliged a second time to postpone the fulfillment of his engagements.

EDWARD EVERETT.
CHARLESTON, (S. C.) APRIL 18, 1858.
All most deeply regret the necessity which has thus again prevented the distinguished patriot from carrying out his design at a season of the year so favorable. It is hoped, however, he may be enabled to execute it during the present spring.

The Little Murder Case.
ROCHESTER, N. Y., April 20.—The trial of Stout, indicted with Mrs. Little, for the murder of the latter's husband, is progressing.—Mrs. Eli Stout, sister-in-law of Stout, the prisoner, was on the witness stand ten hours to-day, and while giving her evidence the prisoner was discovered communicating by signs with her. She testified that Stout and Mrs. Little had occupied the same bed.—The prisoner's mother was then placed on the stand, and testified that he and Mrs. Little came home on the night of the murder covered with blood, some broken and bodies bruised; that she and Little's son went to the river, saw Little's mangled body, and found Mrs. Little's came pin, Stout's cap, and took them home. Her testimony created intense excitement in the court room. It is thought that the lad's testimony will be still stronger against the prisoner.

Pennsylvania Legislature.
A bill to legislate Judge Wilcox out of the bar has passed the Pennsylvania Senate. The bill passed the Pennsylvania House, as has also the bill passed both branches, as Mr. Beven, in Second-chamber of the House, as a residence for the Governor Harrisburg, as Mr. Welsh, speaker of the House, and Mr. Longaker, speaker of the Senate, had been very ill for several days, but which overrode.

Smuggling.
A custom house officer in Boston stopped a "gentleman with a carpet bag," who was leaving the steamship America, and found \$4000 in specie in the bag, and \$4000 in specie in the pockets of the gentleman. The gentleman without paying the duty was of American manufacture and he had taken it aboard, but that duty would not be paid, and it is likely that it will be forfeited.

News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the Times."

Several men of wealth in New York, Buffalo, and Chicago (says the Movement), a new paper just started in New York) have it in contemplation to establish, somewhere in the West, a leviathan farm of from 100,000 to 200,000 acres. Their object is to do for agriculture, by the use of combined wealth and the power of machinery, what has been done in the past half century by the railroad and factory to supersede the old stage coach and the spinning wheel. They will organize the vast tract into two rural establishments, with a military organization of labor, gigantic machinery to plough, plant, reap, and harvest, vast herds of horses, sheep and cattle of the most select stock, and the culture of fruit and grains on a grand scale.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Times writing on the 17th inst., says:—"Colonel Seaton, the esteemed Jr. editor of the National Intelligencer, gave, one of his famous Congressional suppers on Thursday evening. Governors Seward and Crittenden were the leading spirits at the sumptuous entertainment, which was crowned by a 'feast of reason and a flow of soul.' About fifty members, with Lord Napier, Baron Stockell and a few other gentlemen, composed the party."

According to a circular of M. Aries Du-four, of Lyons, the silk market has been benefited by an impulse given to the retail trade by a fortnight of fine weather. The stocks of spring goods in the hands of dealers have been cleared off, and if the season had been a little less advanced, fresh orders would probably have been given. Under the circumstances, the transactions in the raw material, although not active, have been sufficient to sustain prices.

The London Times of the 5th instant, reports the suspension of the East India and China firm of Maitland, Ewing & Co. The house was of high standing, and their liabilities are thought to be at least between £200,000 and £300,000. It is supposed, however, they will soon be able to meet all their engagements. Another suspension is that of Newcomen, Noble & Co., also in the India trade. Liabilities not large.

The New York Legislature adjourned on Tuesday night, at ten o'clock. The closing scenes in the House were boisterous and undignified. In the Senate the new Canal bill, providing for a three-quarters mill tax, was lost by a vote of 10 to 13. The deficiency of interest on the Canal debt (\$710,000) is to be paid by the half mill tax passed a few days ago. There will, however, be no funds to go on with the enlargement of the canal during the winter, unless the Legislature, on meeting in January, shall provide them.

In the examination of the dead letters at the General Post Office for the last quarter of the year there were found 2,482 which contained money, amounting to \$13,457. The three previous quarters gave 2,352 letters, enclosing \$13,364—2,245 containing \$12,656, and 2,202 letters \$11,812. Thus in one year 9,771 letters were discovered, covering \$51,285; nine-tenths of which have been, through the prompt and judicious action of the finance bureau, restored to their original owners.

A Belfast paper, which devotes much attention to agricultural matters, learns with satisfaction that the extent of soil turned by the plough in the north of Ireland this season, exceeds by a large figure that of any year since the famine. Southward the reports are equally gratifying; but there is a drawback upon the prospect—a serious fall in the prices of almost everything which the farmer supplies.

A few days ago, in the District Court of Allegheny county, Pa., Mrs. Margaretta Hamilton sought to recover the guardianship of three of her children, aged respectively 13, 11, and 9 years, who, by their father's will, had been taken from her protection and confined to relatives of the father. The court, however, decided that the father had a right to "devise the custody of any minor child during his or her minority," to any person whatsoever, and as it was not shown that the children were in any way restrained of their liberty, the mother's application was not allowed.

Quite a fleet of ships cleared at the New Orleans custom-house on the 9th instant, carrying large cargoes. Of cotton there were twenty-eight thousand six hundred and thirty-four bales among the produce, together with four hundred bushels tobacco, and eighteen thousand five hundred and thirty sacks of grain, all for foreign markets.

Mr. E. Meriam has addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Navy, suggesting that the Sequahanna be immediately ordered to the North Sea, to such parallel of latitude as will give a temperature below the line of (32) thirty-two degrees of Fahrenheit, and there remain for at least twenty days for thorough disinfecting by cold.

The decision of the Collector at Baltimore has, on appeal, been confirmed by the Secretary of the Treasury, in charging a duty of 24 per cent. on "guitar strings" composed of metal and silk. The importers claimed exemption at a duty of 15 per cent, the rate assessed on strings for musical instruments composed of whiplug or cat-gut.

The contemplated excursion of the steam-er Ericsson to the Mediterranean, seems to have been abandoned, not more than half a dozen berths having been taken up on the 14th. The Ericsson was to have sailed on the 1st of May. She is now advertised to leave on the 5th of May for Bremen.

A man named Watson, of Frederick, Maryland, has been lodged in jail in Martinsburg, charged with having committed forgery upon divers persons to a considerable amount. He also hired a horse in the latter place, and attempted to make off with him, but was apprehended rather unexpectedly.

A shipment of eighteen thousand cow skins was made in a single lot from Chicago on the 10th inst., for London, by way of New York. The average value of the cow skins is about fifty cents each. They were made up into bales of three hundred skins each.

H. D. Stone, who was arrested in Springfield, Mass., on Saturday, for forgeries in Worcester, has been held to bail in the sum of \$2,000. He was also arrested for debts amounting to \$70,000, and in default of bail to the amount of \$14,000 committed to jail.

The bill providing for the sale, at \$3,500,000, of the Pennsylvania State Canals to the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, passed the Senate on the 17th instant, as it came from the House.

mond, Pa.—railroad workmen at Richmond, non-payment of truck on account of the it is reported, have been on strike since the 1st of January.

The New York weekly Bazaar shows the amount of specie to be \$1,160,013. The discount on an increase of \$497,375.

The annual festival of the St. George's Society of New York, will be celebrated this year with an unusual amount of enthusiasm. Lord Napier and the Prussian Minister, the British Commissioner for the Fisheries, the Mayor and other distinguished guests will be present at the dinner. The special service is a revival of the old and laudable custom of returning thanks to God for bishopal national blessings during the year. Bishop Potter and many of the clergy will attend on the occasion.

A correspondent of the Burlington Free Press writes from Saint Charles, Illinois:—"Times are hard and dull. Produce is worth nothing; wheat 42 cents, corn 24 cents, oats 19 cents, butter 12 cents, eggs 5 cents, and other things in proportion."

The bill to prohibit Masquerades went through both houses of the Legislature of New York. Whether the Governor has signed—or is going to sign it—remains to be seen.

Ex-Governor Bashford, of Wisconsin, states that he was offered \$150,000 to approve of the first bill reported for distributing the lands granted by Congress in aid of the railroads of that State.

The introduction of cotton manufactures into the Texas State penitentiary, has proved very satisfactory. The mills now turn out from ten to twelve thousand yards per week.

The Pope has appointed young Lucien Bonaparte, already private chamberlain, as one of the pontifical prelates.

Staub murdered Mr. Laurman, at Chicago, in December last, has been executed.

The Yellow Fever on the Sequahanna.
In pursuance of Com. Kearney's advice, orders have been issued to pay off the officers and crew of the Sequahanna. The steamer Arctic, at the Navy Yard, is to be sent down to the quarantine, to keep an eye on the Sequahanna.

The Secretary of the Navy had ordered the Sequahanna to Boston, but as she has no crew, and as it would not be safe, in her present situation, to place one on board, it is not probable that she will be removed from her present anchorage, until she has been completely purified.

Lieut. Shirley, of the Sequahanna, made a trip from quarantine to the frigate yesterday morning, on board the steamer Rescue. On his return he reported that two of the ship's keepers had taken sick since the day previous, and that one was vomiting freely. Accordingly the Health Officer dispatched Capt. Conklin, in the afternoon, with a commission to proceed to the frigate and bring the two new cases to the Marine Hospital. Proceeded at once to the steam tug to carry out his order, but on arriving in the vicinity of the Sequahanna, he found the swell of the sea so heavy that he dared not bring the tug near the frigate, and hence the sick could not be removed. Capt. Conklin was ordered to renew his efforts to transport the sick men as soon as the sea subsided. The ship's keepers are very anxious to get clear from the frigate.

The names of those persons who have died of the Sequahanna, and of any who having sickened on board her die on shore, will be reported, according to a rule in all such cases, to the Fourth Auditor at Washington, with memoranda of their effects, and the amount due each at the time of his death. The friends of deceased can obtain these by taking out letters of administration, and making application as above.—N. Y. Com.

Lieut. Maury.
One of the most creditable deeds performed at the last session of the Virginia Legislature, was the passage of a joint resolution recommending to the Federal Administration, for extraordinary promotion in the naval service, Lieut. Matthew F. Maury, of the National Observatory. We trust that this request of Virginia will not be unheeded at Washington. Lieut. Maury has received appropriate honors from almost every country in the world, save his own. Kings and Emperors have vied with each other in showering distinctions upon his head, whilst a Naval Reform Board of his own country did its best to establish the proposition that "Republics should honor their heroes." As the Petersburg Express says.—Rich. Disp.

"The intelligent citizen of England, France or Germany, who has long ago learned to regard Lieut. Maury, as one of the intellectual beacons of the age, and who does not hesitate to name him in honorable association with Herschel and Leverrier, and Humboldt, hears with astonishment, amounting almost to incredulity, that he is nothing more than a Lieutenant in the service he so much admires, and enjoys no pre-eminence as to pay or position over a hundred other officers who have made no contributions to science whatever. England would have made such a man an Admiral or elevated him to the rank of a Peer, France would have showered on him substantial tokens of her favor—in the United States he is permitted to pursue his important labors in a subordinate rank, and receives for them no more compensation than is frequently given to a travelling clerk of a New York commercial establishment. We think of Lieut. Maury in his midnight watches with the stars, absorbed in those difficult and delicate calculations upon which depends the mariner's safety on the trackless and perilous deep, or in his daily studies laying down the laws which regulate the wise winds, as of a man superior to all those by whom he is surrounded, and working like Bacon for the benefit of succeeding ages."

The Level of the Great Lakes.

There is said to be a mysterious rise and fall of the great level of the American lakes, which has long occupied the attention of many scientific men. In addition to the variations which depend upon the changes of seasons, there is also a local, fitful, irregular oscillation of a few inches to a few feet, not to be predicted, its period of oscillation being from three to five minutes, and which continues from one to twenty-four hours.—On Tuesday, the 9th inst., Mr. George Wells, of St. Victor county, one of the remnants of the days of the revolution, aged about 94 years, was so severely injured as to cause his death in two hours. His house, built of logs, was situated near the foot of a hill. It will be recollected that at the time the ground was severely frozen, and covered with ice.—His son went out to chop wood, and after cutting some near the house, went to a considerable distance up the hill and cut down a tree; when it fell, it started to slide in a direct line towards the house, and after sliding some distance, nearly stopped, but started again with accelerated motion, and was precipitated with so much violence against the corner of the house as to knock out a short log, which struck Mr. Wells on the temple and fractured his skull. Mr. Wells leaves a large family, some of his children scarcely grown. It is recalled rightly, he was the father of twenty-two children.

The Neutrality Case at Buffalo.

At the examination of witnesses in the case of Thuringer and Zimmerman, arrested for an alleged violation of the neutrality laws, the evidence taken pointed pretty conclusively to the guilt of the prisoners. The Buffalo Advertiser says:

"There appears to be no difficulty in establishing the charge against them, but whether they were authorized by the British Government, or by a British officer, to obtain recruits, is quite another question. The denial of the British Consul that they are, places them in a peculiar position, looking more like a private speculation than anything else."

It is doubtful whether our neutrality laws can be defended by enlisting men here, unless the men are enlisted for service in a war against a nation with whom we have a treaty of friendship.

The United States and China.

The President of the United States, on Wednesday, communicated to the Senate, on the subject of a resolution of that body, "That the regular session accomplished by little. The extra session, though of but thirty one days' duration, was productive of great results, considering the surrounding circumstances."

"During both sessions, five hundred and thirty bills were passed, and about two hundred and fifty left upon the table."

"The veto bill failed to pass, not because there was not a large majority in favor of it, but because it is a subject little understood, and there was not sufficient time for its proper consideration. I doubt not that at the next session a tax in some shape will be imposed on the bivalves, notwithstanding the violent opposition of the tide water people."

"The tax bill which passed the House was defeated in the Senate, and, therefore, the old tax bill is still in force, and the taxes remain as they were last year. The new bill made no material changes, only increasing the taxes on brokers, foreign insurance companies, distilleries, and some other subjects. The Senate rejected it for want of time for its proper consideration. The truth is, that under the new constitution, the time prescribed for legislation is too restricted. It is all idle to say that the varied interests of this great State can be properly legislated for in the short space of ninety days every other year. I never again expect to be a member of the Virginia Legislature, and, therefore, I can speak on this subject without interest or prejudice, and I give it as my settled opinion, based upon what little experience I have had in legislation, that the General Assembly should hold annual sessions."

Sora.
Notwithstanding this peculiar bird has puzzled conjecture even with regard to its appearance and disappearance, mode of hibernating and so forth, it certainly affords many excellent advantages for inquiry. The opinion that they live in the earth is strengthened in our mind, says the Petersburg Express, from recent developments we have made acquainted with, and other evidence of a convincing nature. Several days ago, a gentleman, while strolling through Roslin, discovered a sora walking along the margin of a ditch, and commenced chasing it. The bird however disappeared, where he did not know, but finally upon looking underneath a tuft of branches, he discovered a hole running into the earth, into which he dug down about ten inches, the sora reappeared, and evading his hand, ran off with astonishing swiftness. He then examined the hole more closely, and found a second member of the tribe, crouching timidly to the bottom of its retreat. Here a nest was found, with one egg of a bluish tint, about the size of the egg of a partridge. The sora took the egg in its bill, and secured the bird, but changing his mind, released both. The bird now refused to reappear, but outraged nest, and was in a moment out of sight, in search of her runaway lord. Several instances have been related us, which this fully corroborates, the young sora themselves having actually been turned up by the ploughshare. They are distinguished for their extreme blackness and remarkable swiftness. Those who have heretofore inclined to the opinion that the sora fed to more genial regions on the appearance of frost, have now an opportunity of changing their views or of examining to their satisfaction the truth of their prejudices on the subject.

How Thieves are Treated in New York.
For several weeks these have been committed with impunity on board the Port Richmond ferry boats, notwithstanding the hands on board kept vigilant watch in order to detect the perpetrators. On Saturday afternoon, just before the Huguenot started from New York on her 4 o'clock trip, a generally dressed young man was detected cutting open a large parcel, from which he had taken two smaller ones. He was arrested, and on his person was found a sawtooth's tooth for an overcoat, belonging to a resident of Charleston, stolen from the boat three weeks ago. Yesterday the prisoner was arraigned before Justice Connolly at the Special Session, and the owner of the overcoat attended as a witness. The prisoner, however, feeling doubtless how clear and conclusive the case against him, pleaded guilty, acknowledging both thefts. The witness, though put upon the stand and interrogated on one or two points, was not sworn, and Justice Connolly informed him that in consequence of some representations from a newspaper office, which he named, sentence upon the prisoner would be suspended. So the man against whom two cases of theft were clearly proved—and who form but a part of those committed on the boat—was allowed to go unpunished. "Comment is unnecessary."—N. Y. Com.

Balloon Experiments.

Prof. John Wise of this city, (says the Lancaster, Pa. Times,) extensively known for his many successful and thrilling aeronautic voyages and discoveries, has left Lancaster for Washington city, to make preparations for a series of the most extensive and interesting balloon experiments ever witnessed in our country. Mr. Wise has been engaged to make these experiments for the Smithsonian Institute, with instruments provided by it for the purpose. He has made arrangements with the City Gas Company for a liberal supply of gas for his use. One of the experiments will consist of a squadron of balloons in the shape of a balloon regatta. In another one he will cut loose from the balloon, when two miles high, (leaving the balloon in charge of a companion,) and descend with a canvas air companion.

Death of a Revolutionary Veteran.

The Mayville East Tennesseean relates the following singular accident, which resulted in the death of a revolutionary soldier:—"On Tuesday, the 9th inst., Mr. George Wells, of St. Victor county, one of the remnants of the days of the revolution, aged about 94 years, was so severely injured as to cause his death in two hours. His house, built of logs, was situated near the foot of a hill. It will be recollected that at the time the ground was severely frozen, and covered with ice.—His son went out to chop wood, and after cutting some near the house, went to a considerable distance up the hill and cut down a tree; when it fell, it started to slide in a direct line towards the house, and after sliding some distance, nearly stopped, but started again with accelerated motion, and was precipitated with so much violence against the corner of the house as to knock out a short log, which struck Mr. Wells on the temple and fractured his skull. Mr. Wells leaves a large family, some of his children scarcely grown. It is recalled rightly, he was the father of twenty-two children."

The Late Legislature.

The Richmond correspondent of the Rockingham Register (W. G. Stevens, esq., a late member of the H. of D.) says:—"The regular session accomplished by little. The extra session, though of but thirty one days' duration, was productive of great results, considering the surrounding circumstances."

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Notwithstanding this peculiar bird has puzzled conjecture even with regard to its appearance and disappearance, mode of hibernating and so forth, it certainly affords many excellent advantages for inquiry. The opinion that they live in the earth is strengthened in our mind, says the Petersburg Express, from recent developments we have made acquainted with, and other evidence of a convincing nature. Several days ago, a gentleman, while strolling through Roslin, discovered a sora walking along the margin of a ditch, and commenced chasing it. The bird however disappeared, where he did not know, but finally upon looking underneath a tuft of branches, he discovered a hole running into the earth, into which he dug down about ten inches, the sora reappeared, and evading his hand, ran off with astonishing swiftness. He then examined the hole more closely, and found a second member of the tribe, crouching timidly to the bottom of its retreat. Here a nest was found, with one egg of a bluish tint, about the size of the egg of a partridge. The sora took the egg in its bill, and secured the bird, but changing his mind, released both. The bird now refused to reappear, but outraged nest, and was in a moment out of sight, in search of her runaway lord. Several instances have been related us, which this fully corroborates, the young sora themselves having actually been turned up by the ploughshare. They are distinguished for their extreme blackness and remarkable swiftness. Those who have heretofore inclined to the opinion that the sora fed to more genial regions on the appearance of frost, have now an opportunity of changing their views or of examining to their satisfaction the truth of their prejudices on the subject.

How Thieves are Treated in New York.

For several weeks these have been committed with impunity on board the Port Richmond ferry boats, notwithstanding the hands on board kept vigilant watch in order to detect the perpetrators. On Saturday afternoon, just before the Huguenot started from New York on her 4 o'clock trip, a generally dressed young man was detected cutting open a large parcel, from which he had taken two smaller ones. He was arrested, and on his person was found a sawtooth's tooth for an overcoat, belonging to a resident of Charleston, stolen from the boat three weeks ago. Yesterday the prisoner was arraigned before Justice Connolly at the Special Session, and the owner of the overcoat attended as a witness. The prisoner, however, feeling doubtless how clear and conclusive the case against him, pleaded guilty, acknowledging both thefts. The witness, though put upon the stand and interrogated on one or two points, was not sworn, and Justice Connolly informed him that in consequence of some representations from a newspaper office, which he named, sentence upon the prisoner would be suspended. So the man against whom two cases of theft were clearly proved—and who form but a part of those committed on the boat—was allowed to go unpunished. "Comment is unnecessary."—N. Y. Com.

Balloon Experiments.

Prof. John Wise of this city, (says the Lancaster, Pa. Times,) extensively known for his many successful and thrilling aeronautic voyages and discoveries, has left Lancaster for Washington city, to make preparations for a series of the most extensive and interesting balloon experiments ever witnessed in our country. Mr. Wise has been engaged to make these experiments for the Smithsonian Institute, with instruments provided by it for the purpose. He has made arrangements with the City Gas Company for a liberal supply of gas for his use. One of the experiments will consist of a squadron of balloons in the shape of a balloon regatta. In another one he will cut loose from the balloon, when two miles high, (leaving the balloon in charge of a companion,) and descend with a canvas air companion.

Death of a Revolutionary Veteran.

The Mayville East Tennesseean relates the following singular accident, which resulted in the death of a revolutionary soldier:—"On Tuesday, the 9th inst., Mr. George Wells, of St. Victor county, one of the remnants of the days of the revolution, aged about 94 years, was so severely injured as to cause his death in two hours. His house, built of logs, was situated near the foot of a hill. It will be recollected that at the time the ground was severely frozen, and covered with ice.—His son went out to chop wood, and after cutting some near the house, went to a considerable distance up the hill and cut down a tree; when it fell, it started to slide in a direct line towards the house, and after sliding some distance, nearly stopped, but started again with accelerated motion, and was precipitated with so much violence against the corner of the house as to knock out a short log, which struck Mr. Wells on the temple and fractured his skull. Mr. Wells leaves a large family, some of his children scarcely grown. It is recalled rightly, he was the father of twenty-two children."

The Late Legislature.

The Richmond correspondent of the Rockingham Register (W. G. Stevens, esq., a late member of the H. of D.) says:—"The regular session accomplished by little. The extra session, though of but thirty one days' duration, was productive of great results, considering the surrounding circumstances."

"During both sessions, five hundred and thirty bills were passed, and about two hundred and fifty left upon the table."

"The veto bill failed to pass, not because there was not a large majority in favor of it, but because it is a subject little understood, and there was not sufficient time for its proper consideration. I doubt not that at the next session a tax in some shape will be imposed on the bivalves, notwithstanding the violent opposition of the tide water people."

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